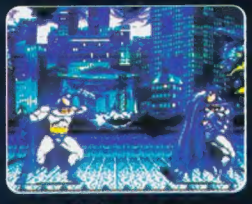
SUPERMAN
IN ACTION COMICS
712
AUG 95
$1.95 US
$2.75 CAN
£1.25 UK
1995
29
PRESSURE!
BY
MICHELINIE
GUICE AND
RODIER
DIRECT SALES

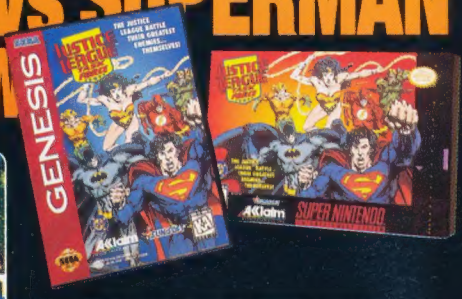
# SUPERMAN™ vs BATMAN™
# THE FLASH™ vs THE FLASH
# AQUAMAN™ vs WONDER WOMAN™
# BATMAN vs THE FLASH
# WONDER WOMAN vs BATMAN
# SUPERMAN vs SUPERMAN
# GREEN ARROW™ vs AQUAMAN
# FLASH vs SUPERMAN
# WONDER W



Batman vs. Batman!?

It's a bird. It's a plane. It's Superman™?!!!

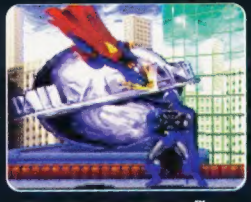
Green Arrow's bow turns friend to foe!




**FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER!**

THE JUSTICE LEAGUE TASK FORCE™ FACES THEIR GREATEST ENEMY... THEMSELVES.

Will Aquaman bash The Flash?



The Man of Steel™ vs. the Dark Knight™!

Can anyone match The Flash's speed?

JUSTICE LEAGUE TASK FORCE™

Acclaim® entertainment inc.

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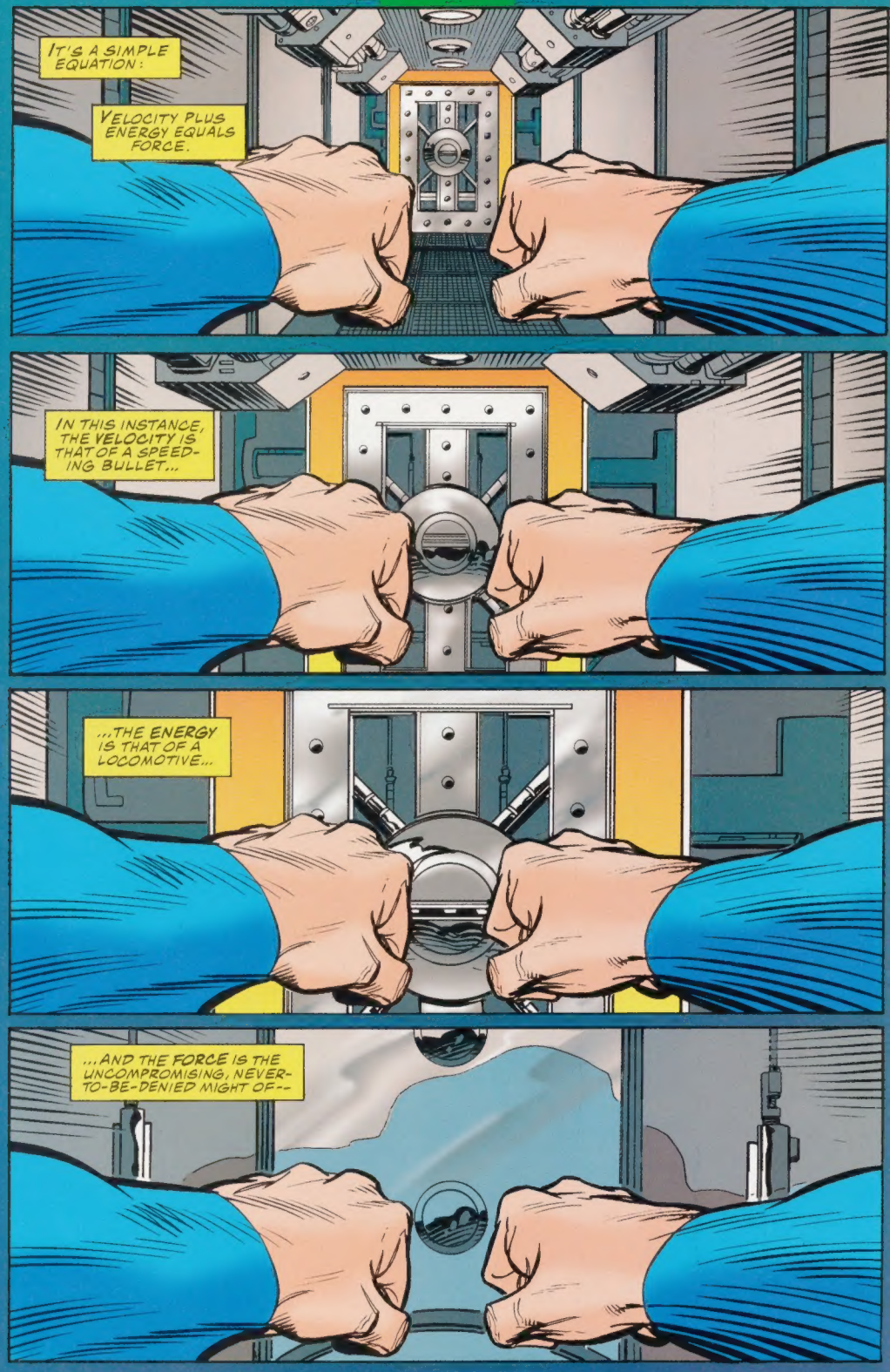
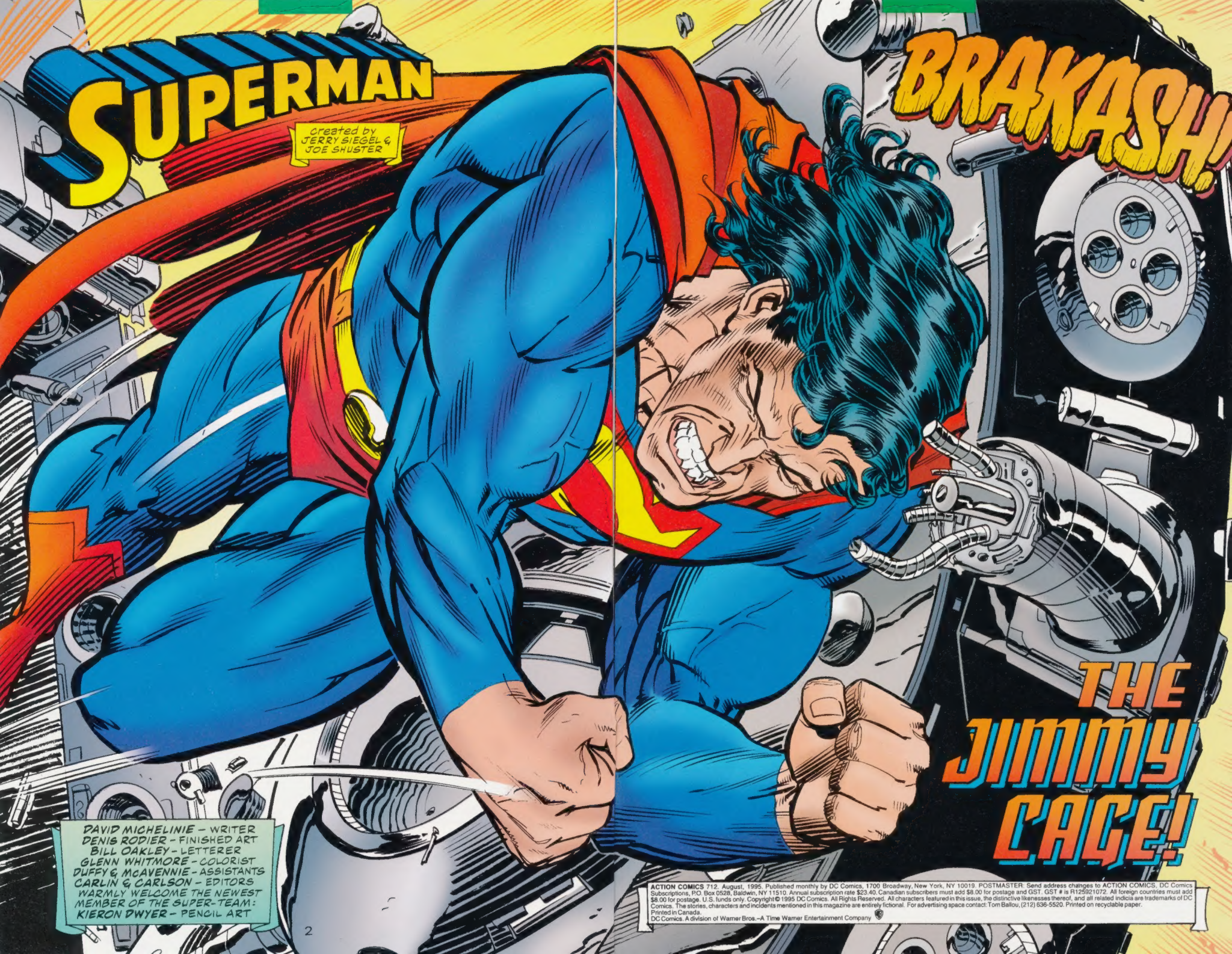

IT'S A SIMPLE EQUATION:
VELOCITY PLUS ENERGY EQUALS FORCE.
IN THIS INSTANCE, THE VELOCITY IS THAT OF A SPEEDING BULLET...
...THE ENERGY IS THAT OF A LOCOMOTIVE...
...AND THE FORCE IS THE UNCOMPROMISING, NEVER-TO-BE-DENIED MIGHT OF--


SUPERMAN
created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER
BRAKASH!
THE JIMMY CAGE!
DAVID MICHELINIE – WRITER
DENIS RODIER – FINISHED ART
BILL OAKLEY – LETTERER
GLENN WHITMORE – COLORIST
DUFFY & McAVENNIE – ASSISTANTS
CARLIN & CARLSON – EDITORS
WARMLY WELCOME THE NEWEST MEMBER OF THE SUPER-TEAM:
KIERON DWYER – PENCIL ART
2

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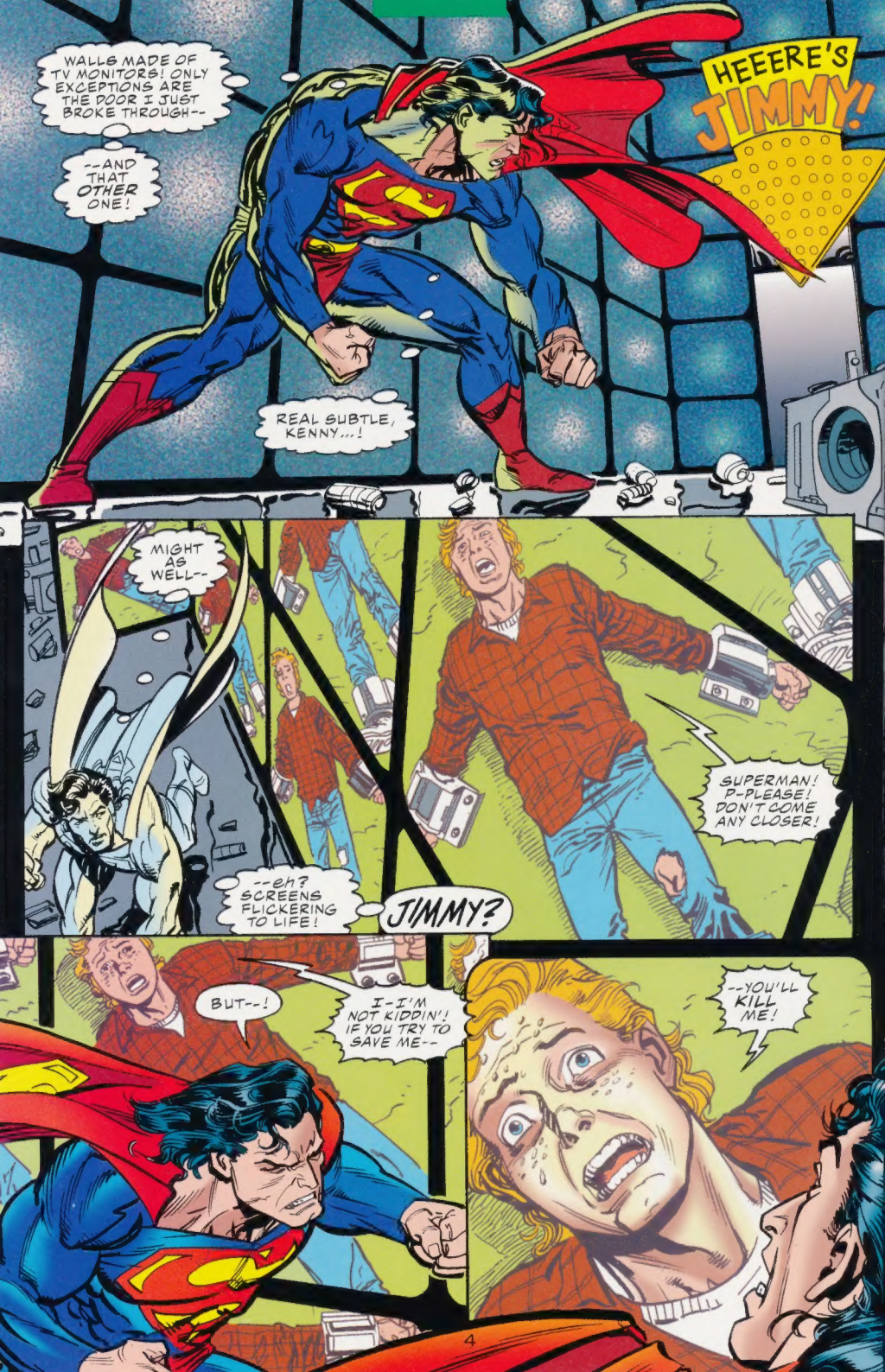
WALLS MADE OF TV MONITORS! ONLY EXCEPTIONS ARE THE DOOR I JUST BROKE THROUGH--
--AND THAT OTHER ONE!
HEEERE'S JIMMY!
REAL SUBTLE, KENNY...!
MIGHT AS WELL--
--eh? SCREENS FLICKERING TO LIFE!
JIMMY?
SUPERMAN! P-PLEASE! DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!
BUT--!
I-I'M NOT KIDDIN'! IF YOU TRY TO SAVE ME--
--YOU'LL KILL ME!

# The Movie Event of the Year in a Spooktacular Card Set from Fleer!

Creating an innovative blend of live-action and breath-taking visual effects Steven Spielberg's Amblin Entertainment, Universal Pictures and The Harvey Entertainment Company have pushed the boundaries of filmmaking to bring the magical characters of CASPER to life.

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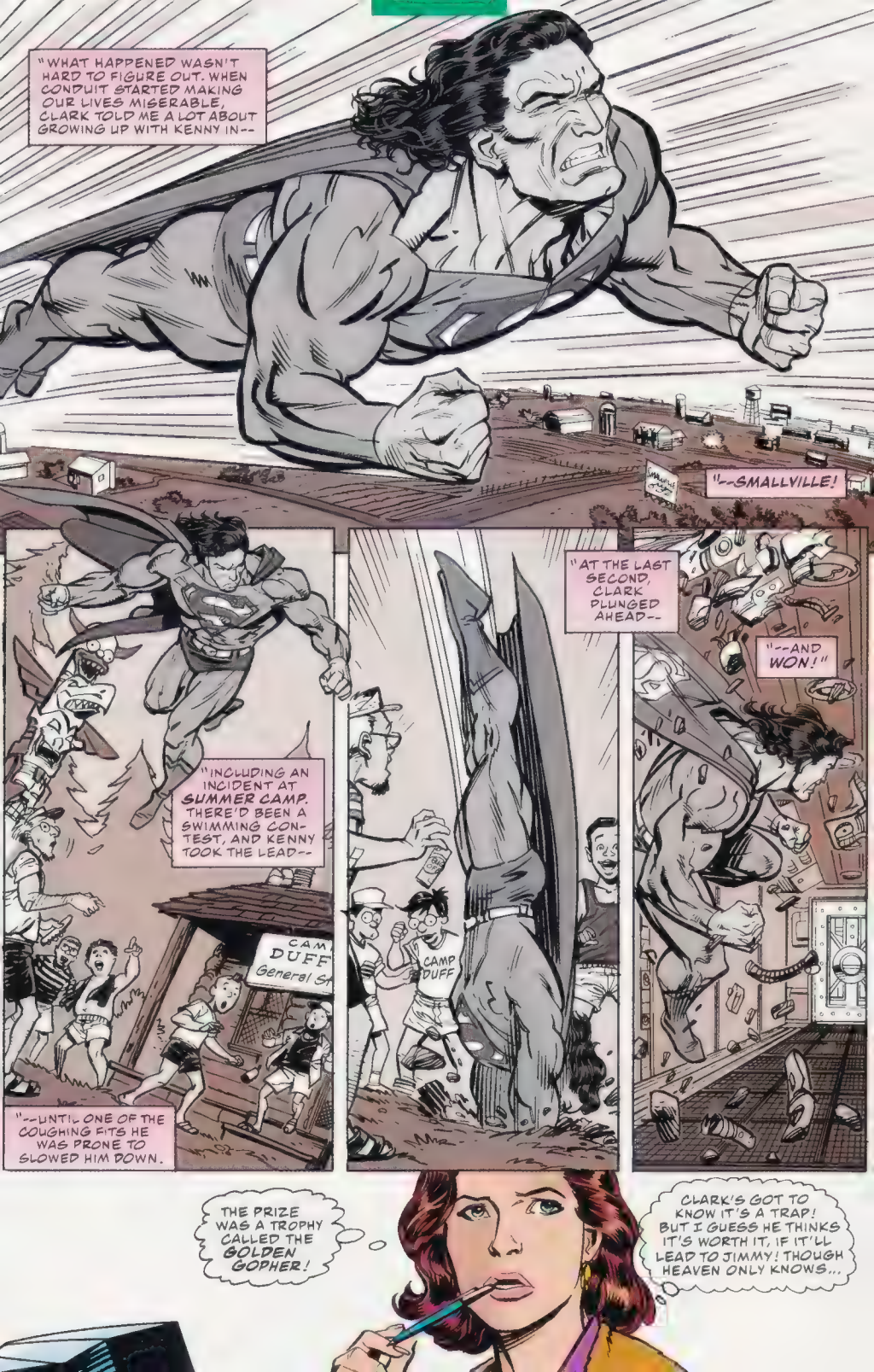
METROPOLIS.
PLANET
CLARK TAKIN' A PERSONAL DAY, LOIS?
HMM? OH! GUESS SO, TOM!
MOVING TAKES A LOT OUT OF YOU.
"ACTUALLY, TOM, HE'S OFF BEING KILLED BY A DEAD MAN! FREE FOR LUNCH?" Yeesh.
AT LEAST WHAT I SAID WAS HALF-RIGHT...
"...IT DID START WITH MOVING BACK INTO CLARK'S OLD APARTMENT.
"CONDUIT HAD DONE A GOOD JOB OF WRECKING THE PLACE--
"--AND WHEN I SAW THE DOOR AJAR, I THOUGHT CLARK WAS INSIDE CHECKING DAMAGE.
"I WAS WRONG."
gasp

SORRY TA SPOOK YA, LADY. I'M MANNY, THE SUPER. YOU THE NEW TENANT?
PLEASE, GOD?
SUGAR FLOPS!
NOPE. JUST HELPING A FRIEND.
WELL, I HOPE YER FRIEND AIN'T THE PARTY ANIMAL THAT REPORTER WAS!
I'VE HAD TA PRACTIC'LY REBUILD THIS PLACE EV'RY COUPLA MONTHS! WOTTA PAIN IN THE--
HEY, MANNY! GOOD NEWS!
I JUST SIGNED A NEW THREE-YEAR LEASE!
d--oh!
OVERDUE
SOMETHING I SAID?
;heh; NOT IMPORTANT.
SO, HOW DOES IT FEEL TO GET BACK TO WHAT PASSES FOR "NORMAL"?
GREAT! MA AND PA ARE DOING BETTER THAN I HAD ANY RIGHT TO EXPECT.
BEING MOTOR HOME GYPSIES MAKES THEM FEEL YOUNG AGAIN!
AS FOR ME--

--WELL, I GUESS I'VE ADJUSTED TO THE FACT THAT I NEED TO BE CLARK KENT EVEN MORE THAN I NEED TO BE SUPERMAN!
WHAT'S TOUGH TO ACCEPT IS ALL THE ANGUISH KENNY CAUSED AS CONDUIT.
AND THE FACT THAT JIMMY OLSEN, THE BEST BUDDY A GUY COULD HAVE, IS STILL AMONG THE MISSING, AND PRESUMED--
--DEAD?
WHAT?
I KNOW!!
CLARK KENT 344 CLINTON METROPOLIS
"I KNOW!"
THE SAME CATCH PHRASE KENNY USED TO TORMENT ME!
AND INSIDE, A LOCK OF HAIR, RED, LIKE JIMMY'S! AND--
--THIS!
THE GOLDEN GOPHER WAS MINE!
"THE GOLDEN--!" BUT WASN'T THAT--?
CLARK...?
7


"WHAT HAPPENED WASN'T HARD TO FIGURE OUT. WHEN CONDUIT STARTED MAKING OUR LIVES MISERABLE, CLARK TOLD ME A LOT ABOUT GROWING UP WITH KENNY IN--
"--SMALLVILLE!
"INCLUDING AN INCIDENT AT SUMMER CAMP, THERE'D BEEN A SWIMMING CONTEST, AND KENNY TOOK THE LEAD--
"--UNTIL ONE OF THE COUGHING FITS HE WAS PRONE TO SLOWED HIM DOWN.
"AT THE LAST SECOND, CLARK PLUNGED AHEAD--
"--AND WON!"
THE PRIZE WAS A TROPHY CALLED THE GOLDEN GOPHER!
CLARK'S GOT TO KNOW IT'S A TRAP! BUT I GUESS HE THINKS IT'S WORTH IT, IF IT'LL LEAD TO JIMMY! THOUGH HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS...

BATMAN™
METAL
FOREVER
BATMAN™
FOREVER
BATMAN
METAL
FOREVER
BATMAN
LATE
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**"BECOME A FRENCH TOAST MODEL OFFICIAL RULES (CONTEST #3)" 1)** To enter the Become a French Toast Model Sweepstakes hand print the name, age and birthdate of the child (in the photo being submitted) as well as your name and your relationship to the child, along with your full address, and phone number on the official entry form or on a 3"x 5" piece of paper Attach A) a color photo of the child (complete body shot with face well represented) B) A profile of the child similar to the French Toast ad above (Include profile categories name, date of birth, height, weight, size, hobby, greatest achievement, strongest talent, worst nightmare biggest secret, most embarrassing moment, biggest wish, goal in life, and favorite memory book, movie,TV show, activity, hangout, school subject, sport, toy, game food, rock group, hero, celebrity and candy) and C) hangtag/label from any French Toast garment, footwear or accessory and mail in an envelope no greater than 9"x 12" to BECOME A FRENCH TOAST MODEL (CONTEST #3), P.O. BOX 844, GIBBSTOWN, NJ 08027 No Purchase Necessary In place of the hangtag or label you may include a 3 x 5 card on which you have hand written the name "French Toast" and the retail store in your area where French Toast clothes are sold **2)** Each entry must be accompanied by a color photo of the child being entered (no smaller than 3 1/2" x 5" and no larger than 8" x 10") Only one child per photo, except for identical twins Photos must be of reproducible quality and must have been taken within the 6 month period prior to the date of your submitted entry **3)** All children being entered in the contest must be either a U.S. or Canadian resident at least 2 years of age and no older than 14 years of age on December 31, 1996 When a Canadian resident is selected as a winner in the modeling contest, he/she must correctly answer a skill testing question before the prize can be awarded In the event the skill testing question is incorrectly answered, the prize will not be awarded and an alternate winner will be selected **4)** Photos and profile must be eqiby labeled on back, as to name, full address phone age and birthdate Entries, including all submitted photos and profiles will not be returned and become the property of Lollytogs Ltd. **5)** Enter as often as you like, but each entry must include a different photo and be mailed separately **6)** Deadlines 1997 Modeling Sweepstakes (Contest #3) - All entries must be received by July 15, 1996 **7)** Sponsor is not responsible for lost, late misdirected, incomplete or illegible mail/entries. Postage due mail will not be accepted **8)** Empoyees and directors (and their immediate families) of Lollytogs Ltd., Mattel Inc., DC Comics, Parker Brothers Bandai America Inc Compaq Computer Corporation Wihelmina Models Inc and Tristar Fulfillment Services, Inc and their affiliates, subsidiaries, licensees, advertising and promotion agencies are not eligible to participate **9)** 1000 Finalists for judging will be selected in a random drawing from among all eligible entries received Odds of being a finalist depend on number of eligible entries received These 1000 finalists will be judged on photographic appeal profile uniqueness and appropriateness for advertising under the supervision of Tristar Fulfillment Services, Inc., an independent judging organization whose decisions are final on all matters pertaining to the contest Photos and profiles will be judged jointly and four (4) winning photos/profiles will be selected as the Grand Prize Winners for the 1997 Modeling Contest, (Contest #3) **10)** The Four (4) Grand Prize Winners of the 1997 Modeling Contest (Contest #3) will be notified by mail on or before August 1, 1996 All other winners will be notified by November 1, 1996 The parents or legal guardians of grand prize winners will be required to sign and return an Affidavit of Eligibility and Liability and Publicity Releases within five (5) business days of notification All grand prize winners, to be eligible, must be available for two (2) commercial/photography shoots Notice of the tentative dates for such shoots shall be provided in the Affidavit of Eligibility Acceptance of prize shall constitute and signify the winners agreement and consent that sponsors and its affiliates, subsidiaries, licensees advertising and promotion agencies, may use winners name/address, likenesses, voice, video and photographs without limitation in advertising and for promotional purposes without any additional compensation Sponsor reserves the right in its sole discretion to use any grand prize winner in its advertising, but sponsor has no obligation to use such winners in any advertising **11)** Contest is void where prohibited and subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations that apply Tax on prizes is sole responsibility of the prize winners Limit one prize per individual family or household All prizes will be awarded **12)** GRAND PRIZE includes A) Becoming a French Toast Model and being eligible to be featured in future French Toast Profile ads B) A one year representation agreement with Wilhelmina Models Inc C) A Compaq Personal Computer System comprised of a Personal Computer Monitor, Keyboard and Mouse Approximate retail value (ARV) is $2,000 FIRST PRIZE (25) Sets of Twenty Five Comic Books from DC Comics (ARV $50) SECOND PRIZE (25) Monopoly Games from Parker Brothers (ARV $30) THIRD PRIZE (100) Barbie products from Matte (ARV $30) FOURTH PRIZE (100) Mighty Morphin Power Ranger toys from Bandai America (ARV $30) FIFTH PRIZE (100) Wilhelmina s World of Child Modeling Guide Book (ARV $15) Total approximate value of all prizes is $20,000 Prizes are non-transferable No cash substitutes allowed **13 (A)** Contestants can also enter French Toast's Modeling (Contest #2) simultaneously with (Contest #3) General Rules are similar however, prizes, deadlines and notification periods differ Entry deadline for (Contest #2)' July 15, 1995 Send entries to Become A French Toast Model (Contest #2), P.O. Box 505, Gibbstown, NJ 08027 The four (4) Grand Prize winners selected in (Contest #2) are also eligible to become French Toast Profile Models. Grand Prize in (Contest #2) consists of a family vacation for four to Jamaica's top family resort, Boscobel Beach **13 (B)** (Contest #2) Grand Prize includes eight (8) days/seven (7) nights at Boscobel Beach Club in Jamaica for two (2) adults and two (2) children up to ages fourteen (14) (one room), all meals taxes and gratuities are included All land and water sports that are provided at the Club are included Also included is roundtrip coach air transportation for four (4), two (2) adults and two (2) children to Jamaica from a major airport in the Continental U.S. or Canada nearest winner's home with roundtrip transfers provided between airport and Boscobel Beach Club. All other incidentals and ground trips are responsibility of winners. Trips will be scheduled between September 1 and November 15, 1995, and must be taken when scheduled by the sponsor (ARV) $5,000. This trip prize is in lieu of the computer prize **13 (C)** To obtain a copy of the Official Rules for (Contest #2) send a self addressed envelope to Rules (Contest #2), Become a French Toast Model, P.O. Box 787, Gibbstown, NJ 08027 **14)** Winners agree that Lollytogs Ltd Mattel Inc DC Comics, Parker Brothers, Bandai America Inc ,Compaq Computer Corporation, Wilhelmina Models Inc and Tristar Fulfillment Services, Inc. and their affiliates, subsidiaries, licensees, advertising and promotion agencies shall not be liable for injuries, losses, or damage of any kind caused by or resulting from activities related to entering contest or acceptance possession, or use of prize **15)** For a list of winners send a self-addressed, stamped envelope after November 1, 1996 to Modeling Winners List, French Toast, P.O. Box 787 Gibbstown NJ 08027

# FRENCH TOAST PROFILE

**NAME:** Michael O'Heir

**AGE:** 11

**HOMETOWN:** Baltimore, Maryland

**HOBBY:** Reading comic books.

**PET:** My Boa Constrictor "Jaws".

**FAVORITE HERO:** Superman.

**FAVORITE VILLAIN:** Mr. Schmidt, my math teacher.

**BIGGEST WISH:** To meet an alien from another galaxy.

**GOAL IN LIFE:** To be a commander at NASA.

**CLOTHES:** French Toast.

## Becoming the next French Toast model could be as easy as wearing French Toast.

If you or someone you know are between the ages of 2 and 14 send in this entry to become a French Toast Profile Model. No purchase necessary.

### FOUR GRAND PRIZES

Four winners will...

1) Become a French Toast model and be eligible to be featured in future French Toast Profile ads.
2) Receive a one year representation agreement with Wilhelmina Models.
3) Receive a Compaq Personal Computer. (ARV $2,000)

### 25 1st PRIZES

A set of 25 comic books from DC Comics. (ARV $50)

### 25 2nd PRIZES

Monopoly Games from Parker Brothers. (ARV $30)

### 100 3rd PRIZES

Barbie products from Mattel. (ARV $30)

### 100 4th PRIZES

Mighty Morphin Power Ranger toys from Bandai. (ARV $30)

### 100 5th PRIZES

Wilhelmina's World of Child Modeling Book. (ARV $15)

### OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

To enter please enclose entry form, (or copy of entry form) photo of yourself or child entered, and a descriptive profile utilizing all of the profile categories (See Rules). Send it to: Become a French Toast Model (Contest #3), P.O. Box 844, Gibbstown, NJ 08027. Contestants can also enter French Toast Modeling (Contest #2) provided (Contest #2) entry deadline has not passed. See Rule #13 (A, B, C) for (Contest #2) information

Name .....

Address .....

City/State ..... Zip Code .....

Telephone ..... Age .....

Date of Birth ..... Sex ..... Size .....

Date of Entry ..... Height ..... Weight .....

**Clothes, footwear and accessories. You don't eat 'em. You wear 'em.®**

FRENCH TOAST®

"... WHAT HE'LL ACTUALLY FIND!"
SO, YOU FOUND US!
'COURSE, IF THIS AUTOMATIC PROGRAM'S BEEN ACTIVATED, THAT MEANS I'M DEAD--
--BUT I CAN STILL ENJOY A HEARTY LAUGH FROM THE GRAVE, eh, CLARKIE?
CHECK IT OUT!
YOUR BUD'S IN A HYPERBARIC CHAMBER, WHERE AIR PRESSURE CAN BE RAISED OR LOWERED IN A BLINK!
SENSORS DETECT APPROACHING MASS, SO IF YOU TRY TO BREAK IN, PRESSURE INSTANTLY INCREASES--
--AN' SMOOSHES OLSEN LIKE A ROACH! AN' IN CASE YOU'RE CONSIDERIN' HEAT VISION...
...THE CHAMBER'S SURROUNDED BY GAS THAT'LL EXPLODE IF YOU DO! MESSY!

BUT IF YOU'RE THINKIN' O' JUST WAITIN' AROUND... SEE THAT TWO-TON PUMMEL BLOCK OVERHEAD?
WHEN ITS COUNTER REACHES ZERO, IT DROPS--
--AN' OLSEN'S SHREDDED LIKE GROUND CHUCK!
OH, AN' DID I MENTION...?
WHEN YOU BROKE IN, THAT STARTED ANOTHER TIMER!
THIS ONE CONNECTED TO A BOMB HIDDEN IN DOWNTOWN SMALLVILLE!
SO YOU CAN TRY TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO RESCUE YOUR PAL, OR ABANDON HIM AN' SAVE THE FINE FOLKS OF SMALLVILLE!
GOLLY, LIFE'S JUST FULL O' TOUGH DECISIONS.
WHAT'S YOURS, BIGSHOT...?

STRYKER'S ISLAND
MAX. SECURITY STATE PRISON
AUTHORIZED PERSONS ONLY
STRYKER'S ISLAND PRISON
LIAR!
YOU PROMISED!
SAID IF I GAVE YOU MY APPLESAUCE AT LUNCH FOR A WEEK--
21
--I COULD HAVE THE UPPER BUNK!
I SAY "WEEK"?
I MEANT MONTH, PINHEAD! NOW SHUDDUP!
B-BRAIN... HURTS! BETRAYAL, LIES...! DECEIVERS SHOULD BE PUNISHED!
IF ONLY... I HAD MY...
...KNIFE?

# OK. YOU'VE HAD A YEAR TO GET READY.

It's that time again.

Time for players all over the world

to square off in do-or-die, no-nonsense

video game competition.

If you're up to the challenge,

get down to BLOCKBUSTER VIDEO®

and sign up from May 25 - June 25.

You'll win a prize just for participating.

It's free. It's open to everyone.

And from then on, it's up to you.

BLOCKBUSTER VIDEO®

GamePro #1 Video Game Magazine · Nintendo · Acclaim entertainment inc · Marvel Comics

## The BLOCKBUSTER World Video Game Championship Returns June 14.

No purchase required. For participating you receive three sets of Marvel Flair trading cards valued at $6.00. Contest open to legal residents of the United States and its territories, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Mexico, New Zealand, United Kingdom and Venezuela. Complete set of official rules available at participating BLOCKBUSTER VIDEO® stores or write Blockbuster World Video Game Championship II Official Rules Request, P.O. Box 6191, Parsippany, NJ 07054-7191. Blockbuster World Video Game Championship II and Blockbuster Video name and design are trademarks of Blockbuster Entertainment Inc., Ft. Lauderdale, FL. © 1993, 1994, 1995 Blockbuster Entertainment Inc. All rights reserved. Nintendo is a registered trademark of Nintendo of America Inc. Acclaim is a division of Acclaim Entertainment, Inc. Marvel Comics is a registered trademark of Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc.

AT LAST!
DESTINY...
...HAS ARRIVED!
GUESS YA GOT YER WISH, MURDOCH!
WHA--?
THAT LANE BABE FROM THE PLANET--SHE'S AGREED TA TALK TO YA.
YER GONNA GET TA TELL YOUR SIDE, LIKE YA WANTED!
YEAH? WELL...
...I GUESS THAT CHANGES THINGS.
FOR NOW!

SMALLVILLE; THE CALM BEFORE THE--
WHOOSH! WHOOSH!
DOG
--STORM!
WHHOOOOOOOOSSH
SUPER-HEARING PICKED UP AN ELECTRONIC TICKING!
X-RAY VISION CONFIRMED THE LOCATION!
HIM?!
WOW!

HIGH-TECH EXPLOSIVES IN THIS CONCENTRATION WOULD TAKE OUT SEVERAL BLOCKS!
CHA-BRAM!
OR RATHER, WOULD HAVE...!
HOLY--!
Smallville
COULDN'T JUST STAND AROUND WATCHING JIMMY WHEN I KNEW I COULD SAVE OTHERS!
BUT WHEN HEAT VISION RESECURES THE STATUE'S BASE, I'LL RUSH RIGHT BACK TO--
--WAIT! SOMETHING STILL TICKING!
ANOTHER BOMB?
OH, LORD! NOT--

--THERE!
SMALL ELEMENTA
MERCIFUL HEAVENS!
IGNITION TRIGGERING! NO TIME TO THROW IT...!
HUH?
WHOA!
COOL!
WHOOMP!
KENNY FIGURED I'D MISS A SECOND BOMB! PEOPLE WOULD DIE--
UH... UH... UH...
--AND I'D HAVE FAILED!
BUT I DIDN'T FAIL, KENNY!
AND I WON'T FAIL JIMMY, EITHER!

# THE WORLD OF TRADING CARDS CHANGES THIS JUNE...

# BATMAN FOREVER

## ONE HOLOGRAM IN EVERY PACK

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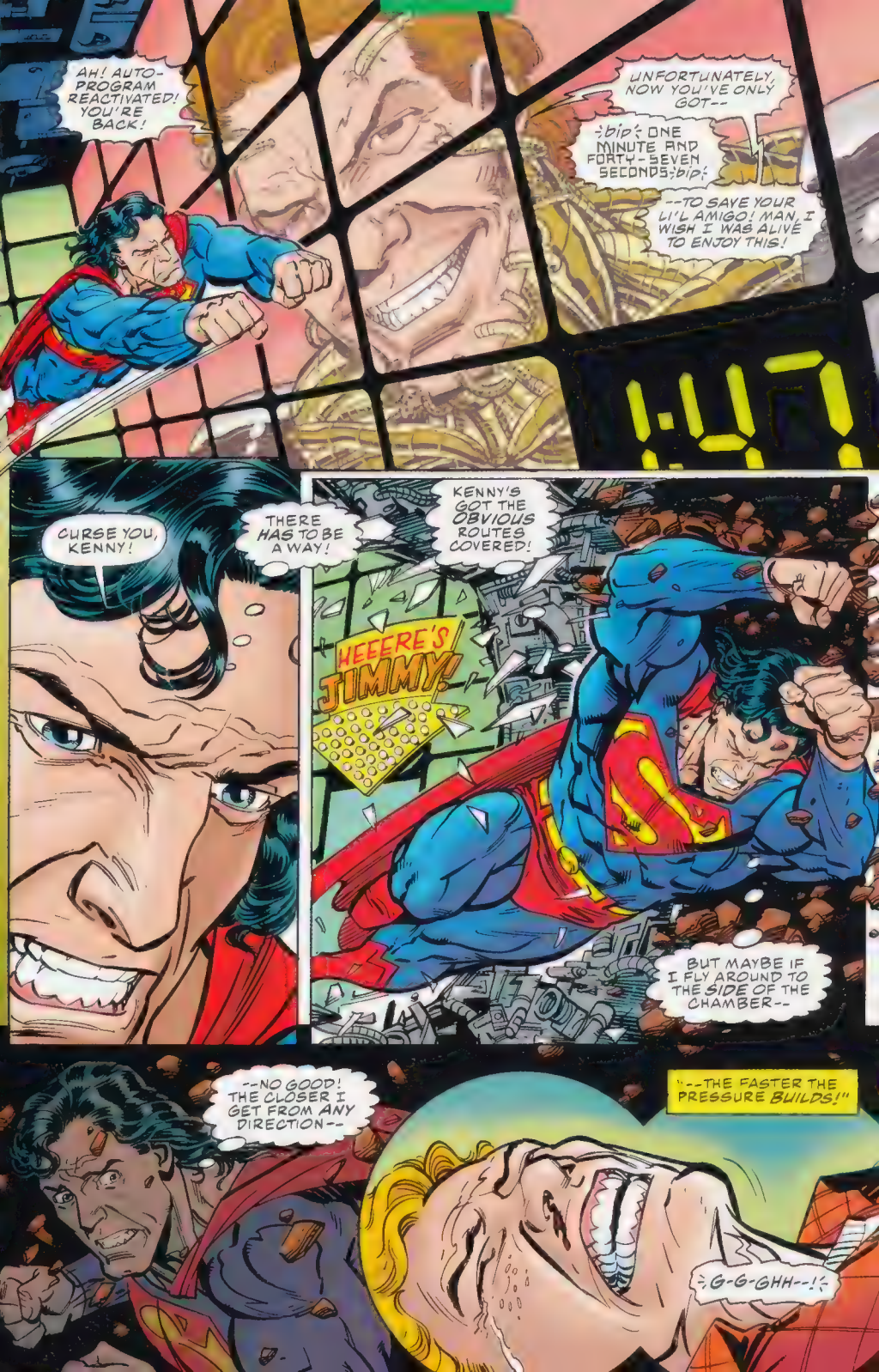
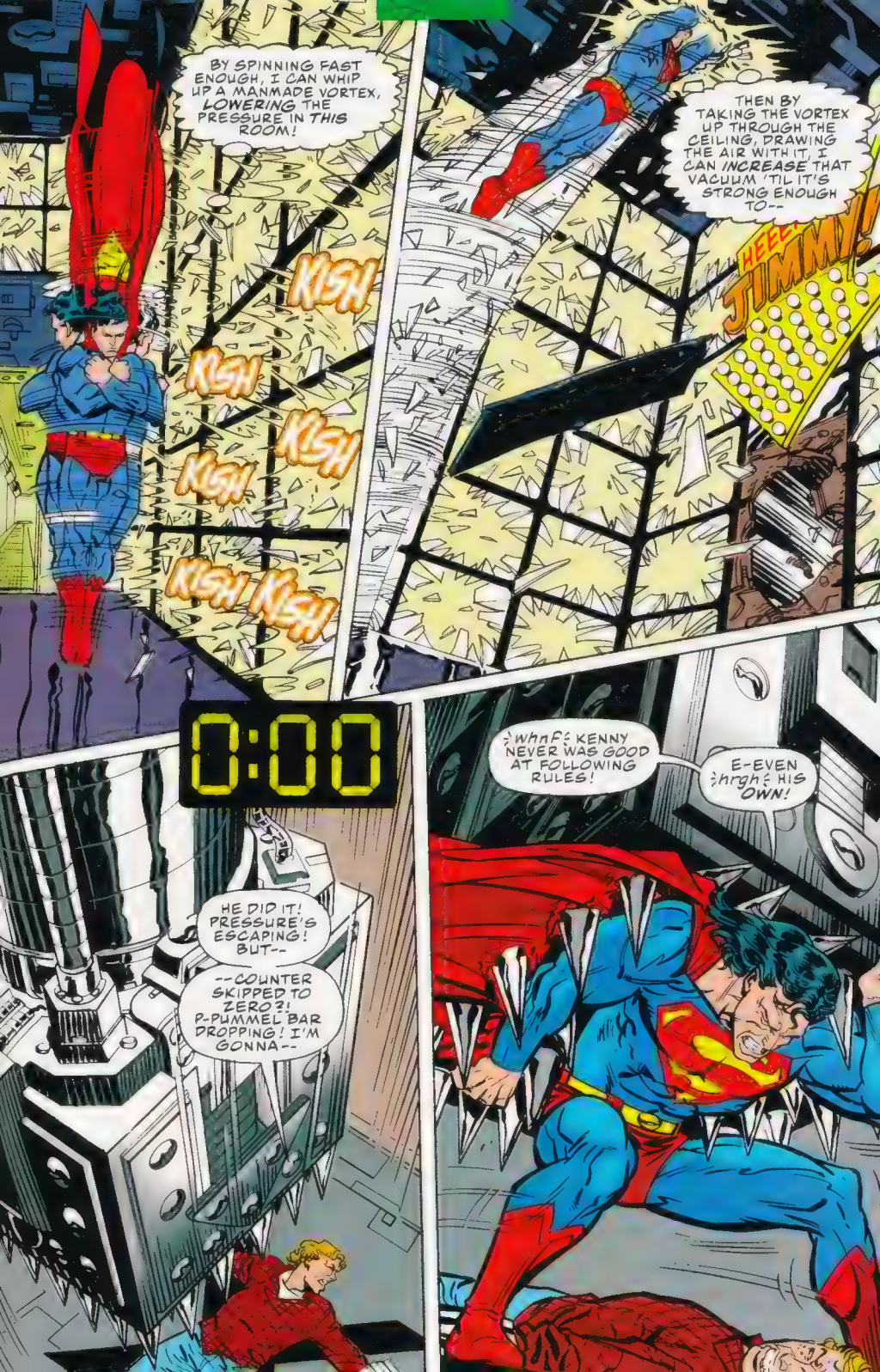
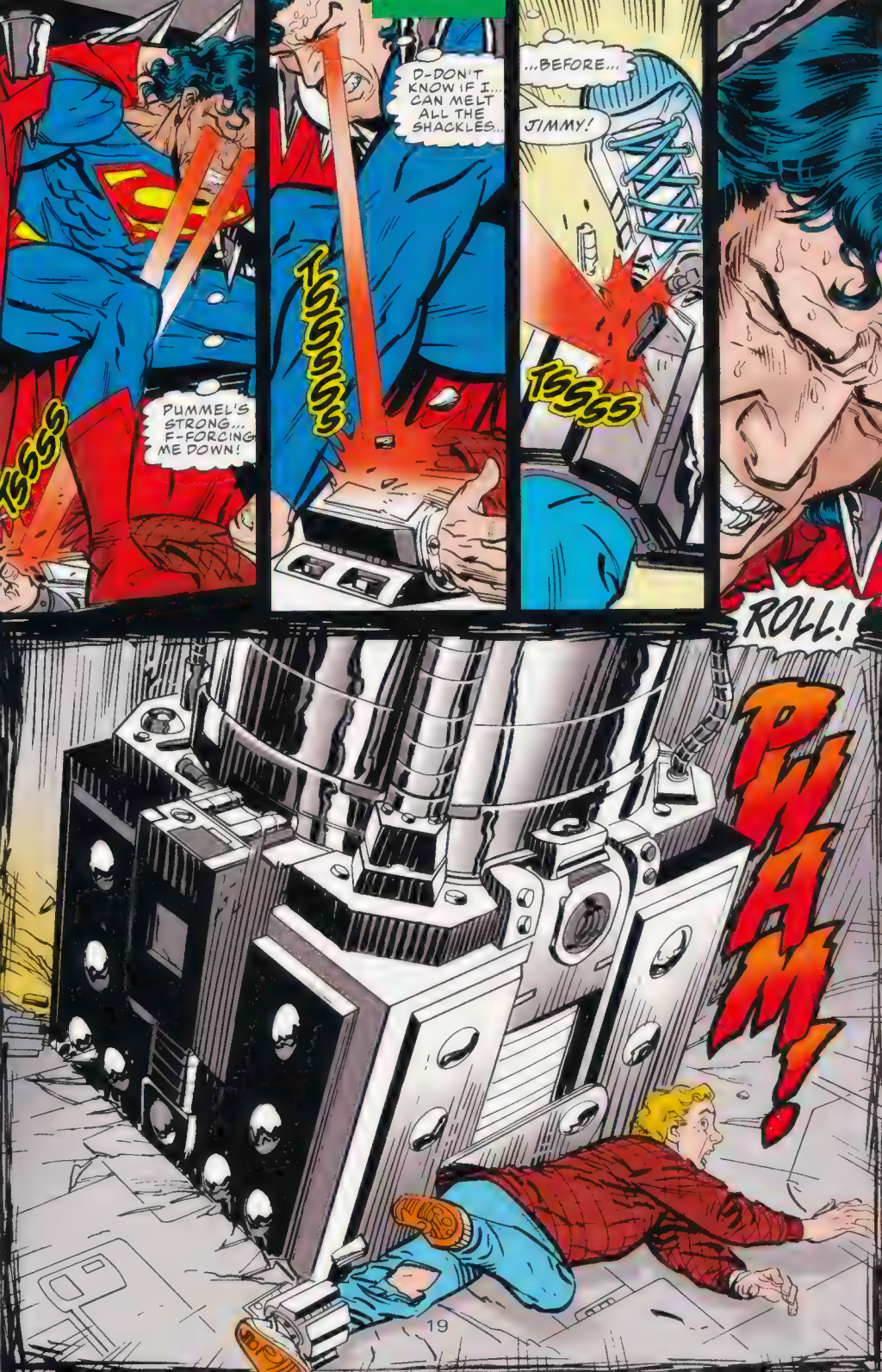
FLEER 95 ULTRA


AH! AUTO-PROGRAM REACTIVATED! YOU'RE BACK!
UNFORTUNATELY, NOW YOU'VE ONLY GOT--
:bip: ONE MINUTE AND FORTY-SEVEN SECONDS :bip:
--TO SAVE YOUR LI'L AMIGO! MAN, I WISH I WAS ALIVE TO ENJOY THIS!
1:47
CURSE YOU, KENNY!
THERE HAS TO BE A WAY!
KENNY'S GOT THE OBVIOUS ROUTES COVERED!
HEEERE'S JIMMY!
BUT MAYBE IF I FLY AROUND TO THE SIDE OF THE CHAMBER--
--NO GOOD! THE CLOSER I GET FROM ANY DIRECTION--
"--THE FASTER THE PRESSURE BUILDS!"
:G-G-GHH--!:

BUT I CAN'T GIVE UP! I WON'T!
MAYBE I COULD --NO, TOO DANGEROUS!
THEN WHAT IF--NO, NOT ENOUGH TIME!
BLAST IT, THERE'S GOT TO BE AN ANSWER!
SUPERMAN? IT...!-IT'S OKAY, PAL.
YOU'VE SAVED MY LIFE SO MANY TIMES ...I WOULDN'T HAVE HAD THE YEARS I DID IF NOT FOR YOU!
0:56
BUT EVEN A HERO CAN LOSE, SOMETIMES. IT... IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.
HOPE I MADE HIM FEEL BETTER.
BUT INSIDE, WE BOTH REALLY KNOW THIS--
--SUCKS? THAT'S IT!
YOU CAN'T BREAK IN, BUT COULD YOU BREAK ME OUT?
CREATE A VACUUM TO PULL THE WALLS INSTEAD OF PUSHING THEM?
MAYBE! IT'S A CHANCE--!


BY SPINNING FAST ENOUGH, I CAN WHIP UP A MANMADE VORTEX, LOWERING THE PRESSURE IN THIS ROOM!
KSH
KSH
KSH
KSH
KSH KSH
THEN BY TAKING THE VORTEX UP THROUGH THE CEILING, DRAWING THE AIR WITH IT, I CAN INCREASE THAT VACUUM 'TIL IT'S STRONG ENOUGH TO--
HEEE-
JIMMY!
0:00
HE DID IT! PRESSURE'S ESCAPING! BUT--
--COUNTER SKIPPED TO ZERO?! P-PUMMEL BAR DROPPING! I'M GONNA--
;whnf; KENNY NEVER WAS GOOD AT FOLLOWING RULES!
E-EVEN ;hrgh; HIS OWN!


TSSSS
PUMMEL'S STRONG... F-FORCING ME DOWN!
TSSSSS
D-DON'T KNOW IF I... CAN MELT ALL THE SHACKLES...
...BEFORE...
JIMMY!
TSSSS
ROLL!
PWAM!

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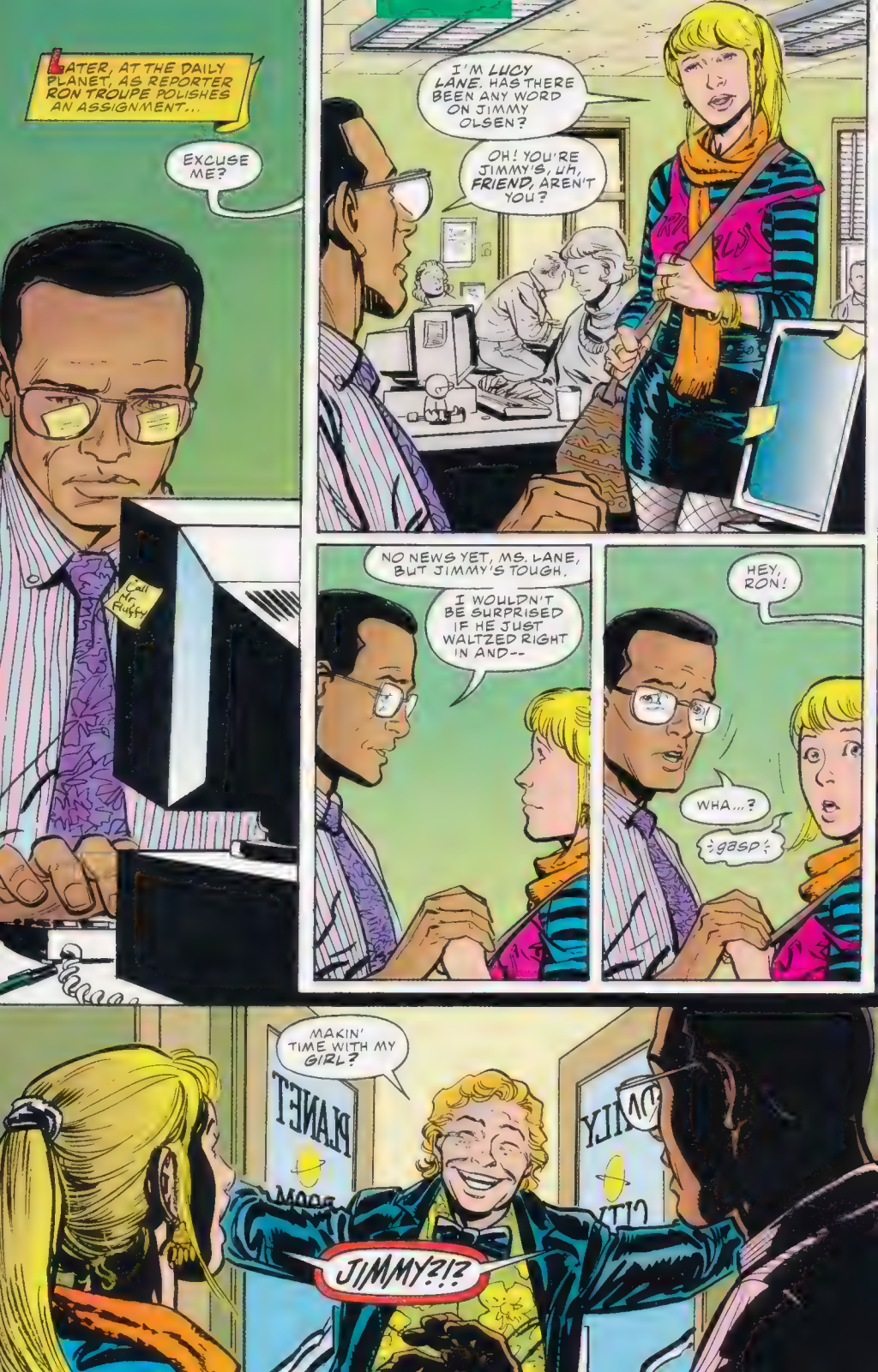
whew! GUESS THREE OUT OF FOUR WAS CLOSE ENOU--HEY!
SUPERMAN?
SUPER--
PUMMEL BAR WAS STRONG, BUT THE FLOOR WAS WEAK!
I POPPED RIGHT THROUGH!
CRUNCH
YOU OKAY?
THE HECK WITH THAT! WHAT ABOUT CLARK AND LOIS AND--
THEY'RE FINE, JIMMY. ALL FINE!
IN THAT CASE--
--I'M SWELL!


LATER, AT THE DAILY PLANET, AS REPORTER RON TROUPE POLISHES AN ASSIGNMENT...
EXCUSE ME?
Call Mr. Fluffy!
I'M LUCY LANE. HAS THERE BEEN ANY WORD ON JIMMY OLSEN?
OH! YOU'RE JIMMY'S, UH, FRIEND, AREN'T YOU?
NO NEWS YET, MS. LANE, BUT JIMMY'S TOUGH.
I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF HE JUST WALTZED RIGHT IN AND--
HEY, RON!
WHA...?
:gasp!:
MAKIN' TIME WITH MY GIRL?
JIMMY?!?

SMEK SMEK SMEK SMEK
A-ACTUALLY, I WASN'T--
WELCOME BACK!
--I MEAN, IT'S NOT WHAT YOU-- ÷ahem÷
YOU KNOW, THERE WERE TIMES I DIDN'T THINK THIS WOULD HAPPEN. I MEAN, JIMMY'S ALIVE, MA AND PA ARE ALIVE--
WE'RE ALIVE!
WE WIN!
--YEAH, EVERYONE MADE IT...
...EXCEPT KENNY. AND STILL, I CAN'T HELP WONDERING EVEN NOW--IS IT OVER?
Shhh.
THAT'S THE PAST.
WE'RE THE FUTURE!

# RE:ACTION

**DC COMICS**
1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019

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DC:

First off—Jackson Guice's cover for ACTION COMICS #708 was outstanding! Mister Miracle has always been one of my favorite Kirby characters, and I've always enjoyed his adventures away from the New Gods.

Last week, the Rose and the Thorn in ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN. This week, Mister Miracle, and next week, Big Barda in MAN OF STEEL! And after that, an all-time favorite in SUPERMAN #99—Gil Kane!

Thanks, guys. The books keep getting better and better. Keep up the good work.

Ed Homa, Jr.
Claymont, DE

*****

Dear Editor:

ACTION COMICS #708 *was* action-packed, from beginning to end. Deathtrap came back and went all out to trap and kill Superman. Lex Luthor, Brainiac, Doomsday, even Darkseid himself couldn't stop the Man of Steel, and this "Deathtrap" guy won't succeed, either.

I've never wanted to see one of Superman's enemies die, but Deathtrap is the exception to the rule; I just don't like this bozo. I hope he dies in one of his own traps after he sees Superman escape his latest trap.

I'm not a big fan of Mister Miracle or Big Barda, either, but they're OK as backups. It seems Barda may have to help her husband and Superman, though we know the real action man will win out.

Gary Collins
Soddy Daisy, TN

P.S. Looking forward to "The Death of Clark Kent," and if TV is bringing Lex Luthor back, you do the same. BRING LEX BACK!!

P.P.S. Conduit will be "The Death of Clark Kent."

*Be careful what you say about Deathtrap, Gary, or you might find yourself chained up and falling into the mouth of a volcano. (And don't expect Mister Miracle ta help ya out, either, smart guy!)*

*If you've read last week's MAN OF TOMORROW #1 by now, you'll know that Lex is back, and balder, er,* badder *than ever!*

*****

Dear Editors:

Between the simply stunningly great cover and the equally astonishingly beautiful interior artwork, I found ACTION COMICS #708 to be an entertaining issue, with the guest appearance of Mister Miracle as the issue's highlight. It's been a while since I read about him, but it's always nice to see him appear in the city of Metropolis and give his Kryptonian friend a hand in difficult times. And hey, it's a great excuse to slip in that lovely, built-like-a-brick-house woman of every New Genesis man's dreams, Big Barda, so you won't hear me complaining one bit.

The basic storyline—that of the villainous Deathtrap trying to invent the ultimate trap, one from which even the one and only Superman can't possibly escape—was enjoyable, mainly because of the rather untraditional way the plot started. I mean, what's

ACTION COMICS #708

ostensibly more innocent than Superman cutting a ribbon somewhere downtown to reopen the social services center? Also, by having Mister Miracle appear before we got to see the actual antagonist of this story, writer David Michelinie has once more proven he still knows how to create an unconventional take on a somewhat standard situation, perhaps even better than most other writers in the field today.

The only problem I had with this issue was Mister Miracle's and Superman's dialogue. Usually, I have nothing to complain about regarding this particular aspect of the series, but after both men were locked inside the building at Dooley Square, their dialogue struck me as somewhat artificial and out of character. In essence, all they did was describe exactly what was happening to them, then explain in detail just what it was one of them did to escape yet another trap. Doesn't that insult these men's intelligence? After all, they're smart enough to see what's happening themselves, and I feel stating the obvious is more annoying than helpful.

I'm well aware that this particular way of storytelling asked for dialogue like this, as reading about Superman and Mister Miracle fighting all by themselves without saying anything would be extremely boring. Yet, this way, there was hardly any room for some interesting character development.

Anyway, the pros heavily outweigh that one con, so I still think of the issue as both very entertaining and full of potential, and it will be interesting to find out if and how Superman will find a way to free himself from Deathtrap's deathtrap (couldn't resist that one).

Olav Beemer
The Netherlands

*Oh,* sure *you could have resisted it, Olav; you just chose* not *to.*

*As for the out-of-character dialogue, look at it this way: If you and a buddy were caught in the same situation, wouldn't you try advising each other in finding a way outta there?*

*****

Dear DC:

ACTION #708 certainly lived up to its name. Escaping from the multiple traps made for an interesting story, especially since all of these devices were to deliver Superman to the final trap.

Mister Miracle seemed to be an integral part of the story, rather than just a cameo—otherwise, Superman would still be in the final trap. Did Deathtrap acquire this technology from the left-over equipment seen in GUARDIANS OF METROPOLIS?

And now some comments and questions:

*The name of the flowers Clark gave Lois is a nice tribute to E. Nelson Bridwell.

*Since when can Superman shave using an ordinary (flat) mirror?

*It looks as if Kenny Braverman is after Superman.

Ronald D. Held
King of Prussia, PA

*Since Clark was in his apartment when he shaved, Ronald, chances are he treated the mirror a long time ago to take care of that annoying four o'clock shadow. As for where Deathtrap got all those wonderful toys, you're not the only one who's wondering...*

Dear Chris (re: ACTION #708's "Moving Miracle"):

The occasional guest star is a welcome break. Although there's no specific title that features Superman and a given guest such as the former DC COMICS PRESENTS, we fans can still enjoy team-ups that sometimes grace the four super-titles that now exist. This time it's Mister Miracle, and boy, did Superman ever need him! Although the result was the same, at least the Man of Steel has the possibly useful knowledge that his foe Deathtrap is using Apokoliptian technology. And just *how* did Carl Draper get his mitts on Apokoliptian technology, we ask? Perhaps you will answer in a future story.

The opening gag with the cutout-Superman aside, author David Michelinie left us with an absorbing tale about Superman's struggle with the Apokoliptian deathtraps of the master jailer. This forbidden knowledge has indeed allowed Draper to become perhaps Superman's deadliest foe. And for what? So Carl can become...*popular!* Draper is more twisted than ever, and the last Kryptonian can use all the help he can get!

Michelinie teased us again about the upcoming marriage between Superman and Lois. Perhaps by doing so, he is jockeying for the position to write such a yarn. Maybe he just likes to get heroes hitched. Wasn't he the one who married off a certain web-slinger to a certain Mary Jane? I can see David earning a reputation as the High Priest of Heroes, as he marries off one after another! But Superman's impending marriage to Lois could be severely jeopardized by the promised death of Clark Kent in SUPERMAN #100. Should Superman survive such an attack and Clark is "left for dead," it might influence the marriage plans. I'd ask the Man of Steel himself about this, but he seems a bit "tied up" right now. And if Clarkie does "die," what will happen to the popular *Lois & Clark* TV show? Maybe they should rename it *Lois & Kal*. I'm looking forward to the conclusion in MAN OF STEEL #43.

Congrats to Michelinie for some nice dialogue. Superman himself had the best line of the story with his emotional and disgusted outburst, "I hate Apokolips!" What self-respecting hero *wouldn't*?

The Guice-after-Kirby cover was a gem! Was this one of those "Cover that inspired the story" deals, or was it the other way around? And how come the interior story's title—"Moving Miracle," for example—sometimes differs from the cover title ("Miracle Mile")?

Roge Fastfinder
Future, MD

*It's safe to say that both the cover and the story were inspired by the King himself, Roge, and the same can be said for countless other comics out there.*

*Cover copy differs from interior titles sometimes because the cover may require copy that's more fitting for the image. Either that, or we've come up with two great ways to sum up our multifaceted adventures and can't decide which one to use, so we use both! (Who sez comics aren't your greatest entertainment value?)*

*****

Dear Editors:

ACTION COMICS #708 was an entertaining ride while it lasted. It was great seeing Superman and Mister Miracle team up to fight Deathtrap!

Speaking of Deathtrap, I think he's the best new Superman villain to come along since Conduit. He's the only villain out there who can build a trap that can withstand both Superman's muscle and Mister Miracle's genius. Even though this *is* just his second appearance, I hope to see Deathtrap again very soon.

The art in this issue was typical Guice/Rodier art (that's a compliment, by the way). From the eye-catching cover to the last page, this issue's art is nothing short of a masterpiece!

The writing wasn't so shabby, either. In fact, it was great! I especially enjoyed Deathtrap's crack about Superman doing more for his career than "a thirty-second ad during the Super Bowl" on page 22, panel 5.

Well, I've gotta go. See ya in seven!

Sam Snay
New Haven, MI

*****

Dear Super-Team:

Re: ACTION COMICS #708's "Moving Miracle," by Messieurs Michelinie, Guice and Rodier:

AWESOME!

What more can yours truly say regarding the return of Mister Miracle, by far my personal favorite out of all the New Gods (though Orion pulls in a close second!). It was awesome seeing Scott Free do the guest-star bit. I've heard rumors that he, as well as other New Gods, will be getting a series soon. Any comment? If so, here's my vote for Mr. Michelinie to write Mister Miracle and Big Barda's adventures.

In that issue's letters page, Joey Marchese ("letter-writing god supreme," he says as he bows) mentioned how David has put the *action* back in ACTION, and I've gotta wholeheartedly agree. No offense to Mr. Stern (Where are ya? We miss you, O supreme Superman writer), but David was born to write this book. He's also brought back the "gimmick" (for lack of a better word) John Byrne gave to ACTION COMICS when he took over back in 1986 or so. Team-ups...I like it. Not *every* issue now, but this is cool. Maybe Aquaman or the Justice League could pop by?

Finally ("At last," says the overworked, underpaid, handsome and all-around great Assistant Editor; yes, this is called sucking up to get a Baldy, so sue me!), the guy who broke out of prison, the one holding the disk, the guy who's gonna cause Clark's life to go to hell in a handbasket, is Kenny Braverman, a.k.a. Conduit. You heard it here first!

LONG LIVE CLARK KENT!

Timothy S. Villa
Moline, IL

*Uh, actually, we heard it here* third, *Tim, but thanks anyway.*

*We'll see lots of Jack Kirby's Fourth World later this year, especially when the New Gods reappear in their own monthly title, courtesy of writers Tom Peyer (LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES) & Rachel Pollack (DOOM PATROL), and penciller Luke Ross. (And don't be surprised to see an all-new Mister Miracle ongoing series to follow shortly thereafter.) As for Mr. Stern, he's part of the Super-Team once more, as regular writer on MAN OF TOMORROW! (Applause, applause.)*

*It just so happens Superman met both Aquaman and the JLA in this year's MOS ANNUAL, though Aquaman's hooked...er,* booked *to appear again in MOS #48 next month!*

*By the way, your sucking up paid off. Enjoy your Baldy!*

—Mike McAvennie
Glad to be here, there and everywhere.

NEXT WEEK: Think a career in journalism's tough now? In MAN OF STEEL #47, Perry White and Franklin Stern recall a time *they* were the young go-getters, out to expose a eugenics experiment in the sixties. Of course, how were they to know the ramifications would still haunt Metropolis today? Also, Lois pays a visit to Stryker's Island for a one-on-one with the self-proclaimed Saviour! Louise Simonson, Jon Bogdanove and Dennis Janke put this one to bed in seven days. (Actually, it took 'em *longer* than that to do, but it'll be on sale in...Oh, you know what we meant.)

IN TWO WEEKS: In SUPERMAN #103, Arclight's back, and Superman learns firsthand just who he is and what he's capable of doing. And what a story, Jimmy thinks! Unfortunately, Perry won't let him write it, leading to a serious falling-out. Dan Jurgens, Gil Kane and Josef Rubinstein stop the presses in fourteen days.

IN THREE WEEKS: In ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #526, the Man of Steel plays referee to the *two* Bloodsports, who duke it out once and for all in Stryker's Island Prison. And hey, the crowd really does go wild! Say, anybody see Saviour? He's not in his cell...Givin' us this riot act in twenty-one days are Karl Kesel, guest penciller Rodolfo Damaggio and guest inker Klaus Janson.

IN FOUR WEEKS: In ACTION COMICS #713, Superman finds the Saviour. Unfortunately, our hero has something new to think about when the Saviour suddenly manifests strange new abilities. Blowin' your mind— and possibly Superman's, too—in twenty-eight days are David Michelinie, Kieron Dwyer and Denis Rodier.

As Superman can attest to, this issue's cover carries a lot of weight, thanks to the Pummeler! (Oh, yeah, also because of Kieron Dwyer's pencils, Denis Rodier's inks, Suzanne Bourdages' colors and Android Images' separations.) *Heavy,* man!

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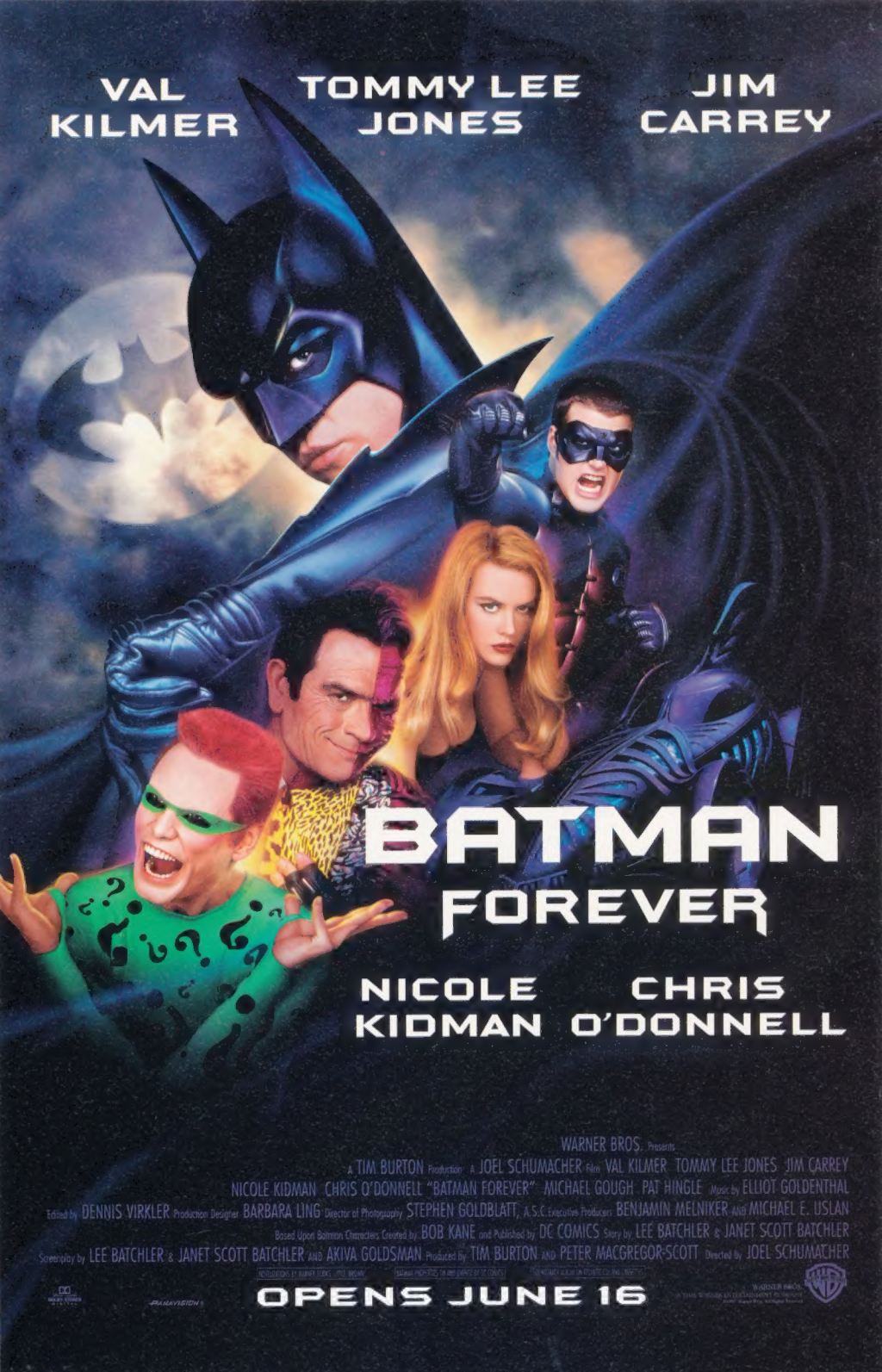


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